



# PARISH BULLETIN St Kieran's, the Catholic Church *in*

*Campbeltown and Islay*

*Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain*

5<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

St. Kieran's, Campbeltown, Kintyre

**Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent, The Bitter Lamentations, 9.45am,**

**Holy Mass, 10.00am.**

Monday: Holy Mass, **6.00pm**

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: Holy Mass, **10.00am**

**Devotions:** *Wednesday:* Mid-morning Prayer, 9.50am.

*Friday:* Adoration and Mid-morning Prayer, 9.30am.

**Scripture Discussion:** *Friday:* 10.30am

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, Vigil Mass, 6.00pm**

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent, The Bitter Lamentations, 9.45am,**

**Holy Mass, 10.00am.**

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Bridgend, Islay.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March, Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion, 4pm**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March, Holy Mass, 4 pm**



### **Psalm response**

*May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.*

### **Gospel acclamation**

*Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

*From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:*

*'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'*

*Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

### **Communion Antiphon**

*From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:*

*'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'*

# Take Five

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.*

**Monday, Mar 06, 2023**

**LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**Who's to judge?**

With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace have power to heal and to save from destruction. Do you know the power of Christ's redeeming love and mercy?!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38. "Give and gifts will be given to you."*

**Tuesday, Mar 07, 2023**

**MEMORIAL OF SAINTS PERPETUA AND FELICITY, MARTYRS**

**Beyond distinctions**

Devotion to Jesus seriously conflicted with Roman rule in the second century, with citizens expected to worship the emperor instead. Thus, the fate of two young mothers, Perpetua and Felicity: forced into a public amphitheatre to be killed by wild beasts, just because they wouldn't renounce Jesus. But Christian faith challenged social convention in other ways, too. Normally, Felicity — as Perpetua's slave — wouldn't be seen as her equal. But belief in Jesus, as Saint Paul writes, makes brothers and sisters of all. Take Perpetua's final words to heart: "Stand fast in the faith, and love one another, all of you."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12. "Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant."*

**Wednesday, Mar 08, 2023**

**MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF GOD, RELIGIOUS**

**A brother called to heal**

On this day, the church commemorates Saint John of God, a Portuguese religious brother who — like Saint Ignatius of Loyola — was a military man who experienced a sudden conversion. In fact, the two men (along with Saint Teresa) shared a spiritual mentor in Saint John of Ávila. A sermon from the priest moved John of God to repent of his former excesses, so much so that it was mistaken for a mental health crisis; he was quickly institutionalised. Later engaging in work with the poor, he founded the Brothers Hospitallers in 1572, who continue to care for the sick around the world — including as official caretakers of the pope. In an age of increased mental health awareness, may we always remember John's holy life and recognize our call to serve those in need.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28. "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me."*

**Thursday, Mar 09, 2023**

**MEMORIAL OF SAINT FRANCES OF ROME, RELIGIOUS**

**Priceless service**

It's entirely appropriate that the Memorial of Frances of Rome coincides with a Gospel that tells us in no uncertain terms to care for the poor. Frances of Rome was a wealthy Italian married woman in the early 1400s, a time of great instability and poverty in Italy. She poured her family treasure into efforts to feed and heal the poor. She was recognised for her piety and compassion and founded a religious order dedicated to serving suffering people, now known as the Oblates of St. Frances of Rome. Upon her husband's death, she became superior of the order. What can we do for the poor or sick in our corner of the world?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31. "Lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores."*

**Friday, Mar 10, 2023**

**FEAST OF SAINT JOHN OGILVIE, MARTYR**

**Fast with a light heart**

The image of the grain of wheat dying in the earth in order to grow and bear a harvest can be seen as a metaphor of Jesus' own death and burial in the tomb and his resurrection. Jesus knew that the only way to victory over the power of sin and death was through the cross. Jesus reversed the curse of our first parents' disobedience through his obedience to the Father's will — his willingness to go to the cross to pay the just penalty for our sins and to defeat death once and for all. His obedience and death on the cross obtain for us freedom and new life in the Holy Spirit. His cross frees us from the tyranny of sin and death and shows us the way of perfect love.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 50:5-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-7; John 12:24-26. "The Kingdom of God will be . . . given to a people that will produce its fruit."*

**Saturday, Mar 11, 2023**

**LENTEN WEEKDAY**

**Confession heals the soul**

Catholics are encouraged to partake of the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) as much as possible, but especially during Lent, because confession is good for the soul. None of us is perfect, and all of us carry burdens that could be lightened through honest reflection and

repentance. Other religions include a confessional practice as well, attesting to the universal need: Jews confess "We have sinned" in the Yom Kippur service. Confession is part of the Hindu Prāyaścitta. In Islam, the act of seeking forgiveness from God for sins is called Istighfar.

Buddhist monks confess their sins to other monks. Check the bulletin, and find time for Confession. You'll feel better for it.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you."*

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## *Readings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent*

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### **Genesis 12:1-4a**

God offers Abram a future beyond his imagining.

### **Psalms 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22**

God is on the side of the just and those who do right.

### **2 Timothy 1:8b-10**

We are called to a holy life not by our own goodness but through the grace of Christ.

### **Matthew 17:1-9**

On a mountaintop, the disciples see Jesus through new eyes.

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## *Words on the Word*

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*(...) he was transformed before them. Not abandoning the nature of the true body but showing the glory of the future resurrection: his or ours, because as he has now appeared to the apostles, he will appear to all the elect after the resurrection. And at the very time of judgment, he will be seen by the good and the bad in the form of a servant, so that the perverse will be able to understand that he is the same judge whom they previously rejected with contempt (Bede the Venerable).*

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Jesus, knowing that He would be humiliated, appeared to His disciples in glory to strengthen their faith. Then they wanted to stay with their Master on that mountain forever. Did they have enough enthusiasm to last for a long time?

We ourselves often want to see the triumphant deeds of God today – and now.

We want to see the shame and humiliation of the enemies of the Holy Faith and the Holy Church. History knows the period of the "Church Triumphant".

There were times when kings fought with the sword against paganism and internal threats (heresy). Various leaders considered themselves God's Anointed Ones and did not hesitate to exterminate smaller nations in the name of God (e.g., the nation of the Baltic Prussians).

Periods in the history of many countries have also known bishops in political positions and having a decisive say in many matters of government. Some acted as prime ministers and decided the fate of international politics. It rarely benefits the faith of God's people. Sometimes, on the contrary, it gave rise to cynicism and scandal (Cardinal Richelieu may serve as an example).

Even great religious orders, such as the Jesuits, wishing to "help God and the Church", gained influence in courts of royalty, magnates and nobles in order to effectively expand the kingdom of God on earth, but according to their own formula. This caused widespread disappointment and services of the Jesuits were rejected by the world and the Church (the order was dissolved).

Looking at the Church in Germany, but also in other rich Western countries, it is difficult to understand why churches are often empty. The activities of the Church are well thought out and directed toward the faithful. There are Catholic kindergartens, churches are heated, Catholic

programs are broadcast on television, the faith is respected at universities and hospitals. What was missing? Maybe humility? Maybe prayers for God's help?

" Bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us " (2 Tm 1:8) – St. Paul. It brings us to the realities of this world and does not hesitate to utter those unpopular words: hardships and adversities are and will be, and they must be endured for the sake of the Gospel. This is not the personal opinion of St. Paul, but the word of God.

The most difficult thing is to accept the thought that there will be no earthly triumph. There will be a cross and Good Friday – so that there can be a resurrection. This was the way Christ walked, none other was given to the Church.

Christ sometimes takes us and the whole Church to the Mount of Transfiguration. Inwardly, we say to the Lord, "It is good for us to be here." But after while He again takes us down with Him "into the world" and again only "hardships and adversities" remain. As Christians, we know not only bitterness and loneliness, but also such moments of God's presence that open our eyes, strengthen our faith, and give us the strength to live.

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Kazimierz Przerwa-Tetmajer is probably writing about these moments here:

*And I had a moment of such delight,  
as if I were no longer a part of being,  
but I was sinking into empty, infinite space  
like seagulls sink into the horizon . . .  
And only in the distance, the barely visible  
trees turned golden in the meadow below,  
and as if the houses were white, full of sun,  
and all around was space and endless blue . . .  
And I felt nothing that a man can feel,  
it seemed I was touching your garments, O God,  
and deluded from human memory,  
for a moment I was raptured . . .*

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## Prayer

**Please pray for those who are sick, in need or have asked for our prayers:** Lilian Cox, Madge McWhirter, Sarah Carmichael, Catherine Walker, Ailsa Stewart, Meg Douglas (Mull), Doleen Durnin, and Russell Carroll.

**Please remember in your prayers** Thomas Finn, Mary Scully Leahy, Emmie Dunne **and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.**

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## News and Events

**Tea and coffee** in the hall after Sunday Mass. Our visitors are most welcome, please come along.

**Welcome** to Alina and Mykola. We hope they will find some peace and happiness here.

**Readers for Holy Week:** Palm Sunday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil all need extra readers in addition to the scheduled reader. Please let Fiona Fox or Fr Tony know if you are available.

**Live streaming** – on Facebook (see below for link).



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[www.stkieranscampbeltown.org](http://www.stkieranscampbeltown.org)



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